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COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Military Information from the Area of East Berlin

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] PREPARED 1 October 1953 25X1A

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 3 September 1953, the cantonment south of the Karlshorst racecourse near Berlin was occupied to capacity by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery and tank insignia. On 1 September, source learned that the troops who had formerly been stationed in Wuhlheide transferred to the cantonment south of the racecourse. The western section of the cantonment was enlarged as far as Karlshorster Chaussee. Vehicles and weapons observed in the billeting area included about 40 T-34/85 tanks, 300 vehicles including trucks and tank trucks, about 10 BA-64 armored scout cars, about 10 armored six-wheel machine gun carriers and not less than six heavy AA guns. [REDACTED] 25X1C
2. Between 1 and 7 September 1953, source determined that, after 3 September, the assembly areas in Wuhlheide were vacated, except for a dump with 8 tank trucks and about 200 gasoline drums. [REDACTED] 25X1C
3. On 7 September, the cantonment south of the Karlshorst racecourse was occupied to capacity by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets including some with tank and artillery insignia. About 10 BA-64 armored scout cars were seen in the western section of the cantonment. The new fence made an approach difficult. Tanks and vehicles were no longer observed. [REDACTED] 25X1C
4. On 1 September, source determined that the troop camp along Karlshorster Chaussee was enlarged toward the southeast by the erection of about 25 large temporary barracks buildings for EM. The recreation ground is located south of the camp which was previously accessible to civilians was cordoned off and fenced in. Residents stated that, on 20 and 29 August, about 36 tanks were parked on the meadow. [REDACTED] double sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia were observed there on 3 September. Troops that entered and left the installation on 1 September wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and black-bordered black epaulets with construction engineer insignia. The engineer troops started the construction of new low temporary barracks buildings in Wuhlheide, south of the troop camp. On 10 September, the troop camp along Karlshorster Chaussee was occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore black-bordered crimson

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epaulets. No other service colors were noticed. The T-34 tanks parked at the installation between 29 August and 4 September were no longer there on 10 September 1953. Residents stated that the tanks had moved out during the night of 6 September. Between 5 and 10 September, the fence surrounding the enlarged camp area was completed. Two large sheds, each about 15 x 40 x 12 meters, had been erected on the aforementioned meadow.

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5. On 31 August, a tent camp of 10 tents, 6 BA-64 armored scout cars, 10 half-track vehicles, 10 trucks and 8 covered tanks were seen along the extension of a forest road which branches off Karlshorster Chaussee toward the southeast. The fence along the western border of the Volkspark (place of amusement) in Wuhlheide was extended by several hundreds of meters. On 31 August, an ammunition and fuel dump was located immediately near the waterworks in Wuhlheide. [REDACTED]

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6. On 31 August, a bivouac of 12 tents, each 3 meters long and about 1.50 meters high, was located southeast of the Karlshorst racecourse and southwest of the Wuhlheide railroad station. Three sentries, 3 tank truck trailers and several boxes covered with tarpaulins were seen in the bivouacking area. No vehicular traffic was noticed.

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7. On 25 August, source determined a tent camp of about 12 tents, each 2 x 3 meters, in an area opposite the Soviet hospital in the former Koenigin Elisabeth Hospital. The camp was guarded by sentries with red-bordered black epaulets. Soldiers did excavation work and, according to source, constructed cooking pits, closets and trenches and erected telephone poles. [REDACTED]

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8. On 31 August, the restricted area in Wuhlgarten, east of Berlin-Biesdorf-Nord and the officers' quarters were partly occupied by tank troops and officers' dependents. No details on the strength of troops could be determined. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. Source observed several officers with tank insignia, including one major. Little vehicular traffic was noticed. [REDACTED]

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9. [REDACTED]

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10. On 15 August, source learned that no troops were stationed in Buch and in the woods west of Buch.

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11. On 6 September, source determined that no military installations were located in Buch and in the woods west of Buch.

12. On 6 September, the buildings at the corner of Berliner Allee and Liebermann Strasse in Berlin-Weissensee were occupied to capacity by about 500 troops. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. [REDACTED] soldiers who wore black-bordered crimson epaulets entered the installation. On 6 September, no troops were stationed in Lindenburg. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] about 25 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank and artillery insignia moved along the Lindenburg-Berlin road toward Berlin at about 10:30 a.m.

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13. On 3 August, a troop camp was located between Ernst Thaelmann engineer equipment park and the Altes Russenlager. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Several tanks and trucks, AT guns and AAA emplacements and several armored scout cars were seen in the camp area. [REDACTED]

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14. On 10 September, the Soviet bivouac at Wuhlheide was vacant. The troops had transferred to the new cantonment southwest of Karlshorst racecourse.

15. On 1 September, no Soviet troops were stationed in Biesdorf and Kaulsdorf.

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1. Comment. The report tends to indicate that, at the beginning of September, the units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div in the bivouacking areas in Wuhlheide and those of the 6th Gds Mecz Div in the Biesdorf municipal park transferred, to winterized quarters. The units of the 7th Gds Mecz Div are believed to have moved into the cantonment of Wuhlheide, south of Karlshorst racecourse, which quartered an MVD regiment and which had been enlarged by the erection of additional quarters. See sketch attached as Annex 2. The information in paragraph 4 that tank units departed between 6 and 10 September presumably refers to the troop rotating operation between the units there and those committed in Berlin. The enlargement of the quarters leads to the conclusion that the units will be stationed there for a prolonged period. The troops of the 6th Gds Mecz Div were presumably quartered on the premises of the former insane asylum of Wuhlgarten, north of the Kaulsdorf-Biesdorf railroad line. The installation is known as MVD quarters, a sketch of which was forwarded previously.

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Comment. The building is also referred to as Askania building and has been carried as headquarters of Lieutenant General F.T. Dibrova since the beginning of August.

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